

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the two paragraphs in the Specification beginning at page 2, line 30, with the following two replacement paragraphs:

-- In another advantageous specific embodiment, a ~~evaporator~~ condenser or an accumulating material is disposed downstream from the separator module containing the membrane, which extracts from the scavenging gas the fuel fractions picked up at the membrane and stores them temporarily. In this manner, a store of fuel permeate may be produced.

It is advantageous, furthermore, if the scavenging gas that acts upon the membrane is carried at least intermittently in a closed circuit that has a ~~evaporator~~ condenser or an accumulating material. In this way, it is possible to operate the fractioning unit in an advantageous manner even at times when the associated combustion engine is not in operation or when it would be disadvantageous to operate it using pre-fractioned fuel.--.

Please replace the two paragraphs in the Specification beginning at page 7, line 19, with the following two replacement paragraphs:

-- Furthermore, a ~~evaporator~~ condenser 38 is integrated in second outlet line 28 via which the fuel contained in the scavenging gas, which is enriched with gaseous or vapor fuel fractions, may be withdrawn by condensation, and the resultant gas-fluid mixture be conducted to a second storage tank 40. Second storage tank 40 may be in connection with an evaporator-metering unit 42, which thereby allows charging the combustion air of combustion engine 24 or the recycled exhaust gases with hardly combustible, aromatics-enriched or high-boiling fuel fractions.

Alternatively to ~~evaporator~~ condenser 38, a module having an accumulator material may be provided in second outlet line 28 to store the fuel fractions contained in the scavenging gas. It is constructed from zeolite, for example, and releases the stored fuel to the scavenging gas again in response to external heating. Both ~~evaporator~~ condenser 38 in connection with second storage tank 40 and evaporator-metering unit 42, and also the alternative module having an accumulating material allow the storing of hardly ignitable, aromatics-enriched or high-boiling fuel components. These may preferably be conducted to combustion engine 24 in a suitable operating mode, such as during full-load operation.--.